

CHAPTER 7

CONSULTATION, COORDINATION, AND PREPARATION

This section presents a summary of public participation, a list of persons consulted in preparation of the EIS and a list of preparers.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation specific to the Proposed Salt Wells Energy Projects (Proposed Actions) is summarized in this chapter. The summary indicates how the public has been involved, identifies persons and organizations contacted for feedback, and specifies time frames for accomplishing goals in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.6.

Public involvement in the EIS process includes the necessary steps to identify and address public concerns and needs. The public involvement process assists the agencies in broadening the information base for decision making; informing the public about the Proposed Actions and the potential long-term impacts that could result from the project; and ensuring that public needs are understood by the agencies.

Public participation in the EIS process is required by NEPA at four specific points: the scoping period, review of the Draft EIS, review of the Final EIS, and receipt of the Record of Decision. Public comments were encouraged throughout the EIS process.

Cooperating Agencies

The BLM invited nine agencies to participate in the EIS process as cooperating agencies and requested them to make a decision and to notify the BLM by August 30, 2009. The agencies that accepted are Reclamation, Churchill County, City of Fallon, Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon, Nevada Division of Minerals, and NDOW. Representatives of these agencies are listed below:

Cooperating Agencies	
Name	Organization
Eleanor Lockwood Planning Director	Churchill County Planning Fallon, NV
Steven D. King Assistant City Attorney	City of Fallon Fallon, NV
Ed DeCarlo Water and Lands Specialist	Bureau of Reclamation Carson City, NV
Becky Kurtz NEPA Coordinator	Naval Air Station Fallon Fallon, NV
John Dirickson Community Planning Liaison Officer	Naval Air Station Fallon Fallon, NV
Mark Freese Western Region	State of Nevada, Department of Wildlife Reno, NV
Lowell Price Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Program Manager	Nevada Division of Minerals Carson City, NV

Scoping

The public is provided with a 30-day scoping period to disclose potential issues and concerns associated with the Proposed Actions. Information obtained by the agencies during public scoping is combined with issues identified by the agencies and this forms the scope of the EIS.

The public scoping period began on September 11, 2009, with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register and continued through November 10, 2009 (Scoping Period). A public scoping meeting, hosted by Churchill County, was held on October 21, 2009, at the County Administration Complex in Fallon, Nevada. The meeting provided an opportunity for members of the public, local government, tribes, utilities, and other interest groups to learn about the EIS, to provide input into the development of the EIS, and to voice their concerns related to potential environmental impacts so that they may be addressed in the EIS.

Draft EIS

The BLM presented the findings of the Draft EIS and solicited comments at the following two meetings:

- Public Open house on March 3, 2011, at the County Administration Complex in Fallon, Nevada.
- Churchill County Commissioner Presentation on March 4, 2011, in Fallon, NV.

During the public review period for the Draft EIS, 30 comment letters were received containing 425 specific comments. A breakdown of comments by type, affiliation, and category are provided in **Tables 7-1** through **7-3**.

Table 7-1
Comments by Type

Format	Number of Comment Letters	Percentage of Total Comment Letters
Email	10	33
Letter	20	67
Total	30	100%

Table 7-2
Comments by Commenter Affiliation

Affiliation	Number of Comment Letters	Percentage of Total Comment Letters
Government		
<i>Federal</i>	6	20%
<i>State</i>	4	13%
<i>Local</i>	1	3%
Businesses	3	10%
Organizations	5	17%
Individuals	11	37%
Total	30	100%

Table 7-3
Comment by Category

Category Code	Category Name	Percent of Comments
NOC	No comment	1%
GEN	General comment related to project	12%
PLI	Planning issue	1%
ALT	Alternatives	
	<i>General</i>	4%
	<i>Exploration</i>	1%
	<i>Wells</i>	1%
	<i>Technology</i>	<1%
	<i>Transmission lines</i>	2%
	<i>Withdrawn lands</i>	<1%

Table 7-3
Comment by Category

Category Code	Category Name	Percent of Comments
	<i>Alternatives dismissed</i>	1%
BMP	Best management practices	1%
CUL	Cultural resources	
	<i>General</i>	<1%
	<i>National Historic Trails</i>	1%
CUM	Cumulative	
	<i>General</i>	2%
	<i>Region of influence</i>	1%
	<i>Future projects considered</i>	1%
FAR	Farmlands	1%
UTI	Utilities	2%
LAN	Lands	
	<i>General</i>	3%
	<i>Private property</i>	2%
LGR	Livestock grazing	1%
MIT	Mitigation	6%
CLI	Climate	1%
AIR	Air	5%
NOI	Noise	1%
PHS	Public health and safety	3%
REC	Recreation	<1%
GEO	Geology	1%
SOI	Soils	1%
SOC	Socioeconomics	<1%
SSS	Special status species (general)	1%
SSW	Special status wildlife	1%
WET	Wetlands	3%
VEG	Vegetation	
VEG	<i>General</i>	1%
	<i>Revegetation</i>	1%
	<i>Weeds</i>	2%
VRM	Visual resources	
	<i>General</i>	3%
	<i>Night sky</i>	<1%
WAT	Water resources	
	<i>General</i>	6%

Table 7-3
Comment by Category

Category Code	Category Name	Percent of Comments
WIL	<i>Irrigation</i>	1%
	<i>Water rights</i>	4%
	<i>Surface</i>	2%
	<i>Ground</i>	4%
	<i>Dust control</i>	<1%
	<i>Use</i>	1%
	Wildlife	
	<i>General</i>	4%
	<i>Birds</i>	9%
Total		100%

Appendix K contains all public comments and BLM responses.

Additional Notifications

The following state and federal agencies were consulted during preparation of the EIS:

- Fallon-Paiute Shoshone Tribe
- Nevada State Historic Preservation Office
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service Long Distance Trails Office

The following current authorization holders were also sent notification letters about the project (see **Appendix F**, Land Use Authorizations in the Salt Wells Energy Projects Area):

- AMP Resources, LLC
- Hodges Transportation, Inc.
- AT&T Nevada
- HOV Energy
- Paiute Pipeline Co.
- Carson Lake Basin Project, LLC
- A & K Earthmovers

LIST OF PREPARERS**BLM
Interdisciplinary Team**

Name	Role/ Resource Program
Chris McAlear	Carson City District Office Manager
Terri Knutson	Stillwater Field Office Manager
Colleen Sievers	EIS Project Manager/ Public Health and Safety
Jim DeLaurel	Air Quality / Farm Lands, Prime and Unique / Floodplains, Wetlands, and Riparian Zones / Invasive, Nonnative Species / Soils
Jill Devaurs	Livestock and Grazing / Vegetation
Carla James	Minerals and Geology
David Parker	EIS Assistant Project Manager
Erik Pignata	Land Use Authorizations, Air Space, and Access
Dave Schroeder	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid Materials
Gabe Venegas	Water Quality and Quantity
Dan Westermeyer	Special Designations and Lands with Wilderness Characteristics / Recreation / Visual Resources
John Wilson	Migratory Birds / Special Status Species / Noise / Wildlife
Jason Wright	Cultural Resources / Native American Religious Concerns / National Scenic and Historic Trails / Paleontological Resources
Desna Young	Environmental Justice / Social and Economic Values

EMPSi –**Environmental Management and Planning Solutions, Inc. (Contractor)**

Name	Resource Program	Degree(s)	Years of Experience
David Batts	Project Manager / Environmental Justice / Social and Economic Values	MS, Natural Resource Planning	20
Holly Prohaska	Deputy Project Manager / Livestock Grazing	MS, Environmental Management	12
Terry Grotbo	Principal Geologist/ Minerals and Geology	BS, Earth Sciences	33
Angie Adams	Formatting	BA, Biology	15
Wendy Broadhead	Biological Resources Review	BS, Plant Science	20
Vickie Clay	Cultural Resources / Native American Religious Concerns	MS, Quaternary Studies	25
Amy Cordle	Air Quality / Land Use Authorizations, Air Space, and Access	BS, Civil Engineering	13
Andrew Gentile	Wastes, Hazardous or Solid Materials / Noise / Public Health and Safety / Fire Management	MS, Environmental Management	10

**EMPSi –
Environmental Management and Planning Solutions, Inc. (Contractor)**

Name	Resource Program	Degree(s)	Years of Experience
Julia Howe	Visual Resources	MLA, Landscape Architecture	2
Sonia Hutmacher	Paleontological Resources / Minerals and Geology	MA, Anthropology	11
John King	QA/QC	MPH, Toxicology	30
Laura Long	Technical Editing	MA, Media and Communications	2
Marcia Rickey	GIS Specialist	MS, Biology	5
Doug Rogness	Water Quality and Quantity	MS, Hydrology	30
Cam Stringer	Water Quality and Quantity	MS, Geology/ Hydrogeology	20
Jennifer Thies	Floodplains, Wetlands, and Riparian Zones / Special Designations and Lands with Wilderness Characteristics / Land Use Authorizations, Airspace, and Access / Recreation / National Scenic and Historic Trails	MS, Resource Management	13
Wilhelm Welzenbach	Farm Lands, Prime and Unique / Soils	MS, Soil Science	6
Kate Wynant	Visual Resources, Formatting	BA, Environmental Studies	4
Craig Young	Cultural Resources	Ph.D, Anthropology	22
Meredith Zaccherio	Invasive, Nonnative Species / Migratory Birds / Special Status Species / Vegetation / Wildlife	MA, Biology	5

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